

In the Claims:

SWB
B1 } Claim 1 (amended). A composite material, comprising:

a ceramic matrix; and

A12
two different fractions of fiber bundles including a reinforcing fiber bundle fraction and a matrix fiber bundle fraction having different average fiber bundle lengths, said fractions of fiber bundles separated by a minimum in a total fiber bundle distribution of the weights of the fiber bundles being a function of a fiber bundle length.

Claim 23 (amended). In a method for manufacturing composite materials reinforced with fiber bundles and having a ceramic matrix, the improvement which comprises:

A13
providing two different fractions of the fiber bundles including a reinforcing fiber bundle fraction and a matrix fiber bundle fraction with different average fiber bundle lengths, as basic materials; and

providing a total fiber bundle distribution of the weights of the fiber bundles as a function of a length of the fiber bundles with a minimum between the average fiber bundle

A13 lengths of the reinforcing fiber bundle fraction and the
Cont matrix fiber bundle fraction.
